

ZABUL PROVINCE, Afghanistan - Afghan National Army soldiers distribute school supplies donated by Americans to the children at Zabul Province in southern Afghanistan. The Embedded Training Team, located in the Zabul Province in southern Afghanistan, trains, coaches and mentors local units of the ANA.

Photo by Estonian Capt. Taavi Tuisk

Cover: Twenty seven U.S. Soldiers take the Oath of Allegiance to become American citizens during a special naturalization ceremony at Bagram Airfield on July 4.

Photo by Army Staff Sgt. Robert R. Ramon 345th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment



Contents

Page 3: Young Afghan patient returns home

Page 4: Coalition patrol repels attack; 20 extremists killed

Page 5: CJTF-76 deputy commanding general visits Panjshir

Page 6: Warriors become U.S. citizens

Page 8: Shutol district dedicates new micro-hydro plant



Page 10: Riggers shatter airdrop

record

Page 12: Soldier keeps calm amid chaos, Afghans follow lead

Page 14: Khost locals celebrate Afghan Mother's Day

Page 15: CJTF-76 celebrates Canada Day





Freedom Watch is a weekly publication of Combined Forces Command - Afghanistan.

CFC-A Commander Lt. Gen. Karl W. Eikenberry Public Affairs Officer Col. Thomas Collins

Freedom Watch, an Army publication, is published each Monday by the 19th Public Affairs Detachment at Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan. Printed circulation is 5,000 copies per week.

In accordance with AR-360-1, this Army newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military overseas.

Contents of the Freedom Watch are not necessarily the official view of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Army.

Deadline for submissions is 0730 Zulu each Friday. All submissions are subject to editing by the 19th Public Affairs Detachment, located in Bldg. 415, Room 205, Bagram Airfield. We can be reached at DSN 318-231-3338.

Freedom Watch Staff

Commander - Capt. Jim Bono NCOIC - Sgt. 1st Class Ken McCooey Editor - Cpl. Tremeshia Ellis Journalists -Spc. James Tamez Pfc. Anna Perry Pfc. Michael Nyeste

Visit the CFC-A Web site at www.cfc-a.centcom.mil

Click on the *Freedom Watch* link in the features section to view the *Freedom Watch*. To be added to the weekly distribution list, e-mail freedomwatch@baf.afgn.army.mil

Young Afghan patient arrives home after U.S. heart surgery

By Air Force Maj. David Kurle 455th Aeromedical Evacuation Wing Public Affairs

BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan -- An Air Force C-17 cargo plane carried a young boy here recovering from desperately needed heart surgery. He knows his future was made possible by the efforts of the U.S. military.

Most aircraft arriving here bring the supplies needed to sustain U.S. military forces in Afghanistan, but on July 2, an aircraft delivered something different, hope.

On board the C-17 flight from Ramstein Air Base, Germany, was Omar Muhammed, who left here in May, bound for Children's National Medical Center in Washington, D.C. He suffered from a heart defect that seriously lessened the chances he would see adulthood.

"This is a birth defect normally fixed within the first year of birth," said Capt. Kristen Zebrowski, a flight nurse with the 86th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron at Ramstein. She attended to Omar on his return flight to Afghanistan.

But nothing in Afghanistan occurs "normally."

More than a year ago, Omar's father, Fathi, brought his sick child to Forward Operating Base Salerno, where U.S. Army physician Maj. Sloane Guy diagnosed the heart problem, which prevented an adequate supply of oxygenated blood to Omar's small body.

After securing sponsorship, finding a doctor to perform the needed surgery to correct Omar's condition and arranging transportation, which had to be approved by the Secretary of



Photo by Air Force Maj. David Kurle

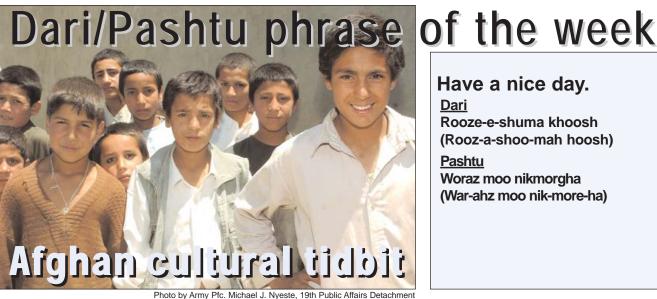
U.S. service members unload an Afghan boy from a C-17 here July 3. Omar Muhammed returned to Afghanistan after recovering from heart surgery at the Children's National Medical Center in Washington, D.C. Muhammed suffered from a heart defect.

Defense, Omar and his father were flown to the United States. The C-17, from March Air Reserve Base, Calif., closed the loop on Omar's journey.

"He was definitely jovial and in good spirits," Zebrowski said. "I think he definitely developed a liking to some American things like Pepsi and chips."

The flight crew, a mix of reservists and active duty from three different bases, welcomed the change from their usual mission of

See PATIENT, Page 4



Have a nice day.

Dari

Rooze-e-shuma khoosh (Rooz-a-shoo-mah hoosh)

Pashtu

Woraz moo nikmorgha (War-ahz moo nik-more-ha)

Afghan social occasions are predominately family and extended family affairs. Picnics are important events on Fridays, the official government and religious holiday for Afghans. Many parties are for either male or female groups.

Coalition patrol repels attack; 20 extremists killed

Combined Forces Command -Afghanistan Public Affairs

BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan -- Twenty extremists were killed after attacking a Coalition patrol with small arms and mortar fire in the Sangin District of Helmand Province on July 2.

Two Coalition soldiers were wounded and transported to a Coalition medical facility for treatment. They are in stable condition.

The patrol had just completed a cordon and search opera-

"The focus... is to enable the Afghan national security forces to provide security and create a stable environment for provincial and district-level governments to be responsive and representative of the people."

Army Lt. Col. Paul Fitzpatrick Combined Joint Task Force - 76

tion, where they recovered an enemy weapons cache, when up to 30 extremists attacked.

The patrol returned fire, and Coalition provided joint fire.

The Coalition attacked the engaging enemy element and a second group attempting to reinforce the original group.

"Afghan and Coalition forces

continue their attacks on extremists in selectsouthern areas of Afghanistan to deny the enemy sanctuary," said Lt. Col. Paul Fitzpatrick, Combined Joint Task Force - 76 spokesperson. "The focus of Operation Mountain Thrust is to enable the Afghan national security forces to provide security and create a stable environment for provincial and district-level governments to be responsive and representative of the people."

PATIENT, from Page 3

hauling cargo and troops.

"Cargo is important, but to carry someone who's injured and return them home is priceless," said Air Force Tech. Sgt. Alec McGuyer, the loadmaster on the flight. "We're helping this Afghan family."

The flight crew and medical crew alike were charmed by the boy during the flight from Ramstein.

"He eats like a healthy little boy," said Air Force Senior Master Sgt. Patrick Weir, flight medic, a reservist deployed to Ramstein from the 908th Airlift Wing at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala. "I

was running out of apples for that kid."

When Air Force Staff Sgt. Kevin Allen, an 86th AES flight medic, flies on missions, he is usually bringing wounded people out of Afghanistan.

"It was surprising when I went in the crew brief and they said we had a patient going back," he said. "I have children, and it stirs my heart that we were able to give care to this child."

Zebrowski wondered if she would ever know the eventual ending of Omar's journey.

"It's great that we were able to get him the care he needed," she said. "You just kind of wonder what's going to happen to him here, I would just like to know how he's doing."

Enduring Voices

If you could change one thing about your deployment, what would it be?



Marine Cpl. Tony D'Amato Bagram Airfield

"I'd like more webcams so I can see my family more frequently."



Army Spc. Jennifer Paradis Bagram Airfield

"All the rules here. It would help Soldiers relax. They can get pretty uptight working seven days a week."



Army Spc.
Justin Sellers
Bagram Airfield

"I wish the offices still had phone lines to call loved ones in the states directly. The MWR is usually packed."



Army Maj. Scott Brooks Bagram Airfield

"Things are going very well overall. I don't think there is anything I would change."



Photo by Air Force Tech. Sgt. John Cumper

Canadian Brig. Gen. Daniel Pepin discusses the successes and future goals for Panjshir Province with Panjshir Provincial Governor Haji Bahlol (left) and Deputy Governor Abdul Rahman Kabiri (center) in Panjshir Province on June 27. Pepin is the CJTF-76 deputy commanding general for effects.

CJTF-76 deputy commanding general visits Panjshir

By Air Force Capt. Joe Campbell

Panjshir Provincial Reconstruction Team

PANJSHIR PROVINCE, Afghanistan -- The Combined Joint Task Force-76 deputy commanding general for effects visited the Panjshir Provincial Reconstruction Team and governor here June 27.

Following a mission brief and lunch with Soldiers and airmen from the PRT, Canadian Brig. Gen. Daniel Pepin met with Governor Haji Bahlol and reaffirmed the commitment of the PRT in its partnership with the provincial government.

"Congratulations on your success and thank you for the outstanding job done so far of providing security for the PRT - their safety is important so we can continue to help you reconstruct the province," Pepin said.

The governor is the lead agent for all reconstruction projects in the province and the PRT works closely with him to be responsive to his priorities.

"I've met 10 to 12 of the provincial governors in Afghanistan and I can tell you that other governors are envious of the stability and security here," Pepin told Governor Bahlol.

More work lies ahead, but many possibilities also exist with continued hard work and funding. The general compared the situation in Panjshir to that of a shop-keeper trying to bring in customers to make a sale.

"We need to help figure out how to bring in (non-governmental organizations) and donors to show them the beauty here, but also the security and stability. That, I believe, will encourage investors in Panjshir," Pepin said.

Education and agriculture are the governor's number one and two priorities respectively, but he believes the new paved road that is being constructed now will encourage more tourism and help the economy. "Education is the foundation for everything," said Governor Bahlol. "We're working with the PRT on a plan for building a girls' high school near Bazarak and we have a number of other projects complete or in the works such as bringing electricity, safe drinking water, paved roads and retaining walls along the river to improve life here."

Despite the successes, the government still faces challenges. According to the governor, there are only 22 schools in the province where at least 85 are needed and there are not enough teachers.

Governor Bahlol said he is honored to represent the people of Panjshir and he thanked the Coalition for supporting and helping them.

"One hand cannot make noise without the other," said the governor referring to the relationship between the Coalition, non-governmental organizations and his government. "We can do a lot with the help of friends."



Photo by Army Staff Sgt. Robert R. Ramon

Soldiers recite the Oath of Allegiance during a special July 4 naturalization ceremony at Bagram Airfield. Twenty seven U.S. Soldiers serving on the front lines of the war on terror in Afghanistan took the Oath of Allegiance on America's 230th birthday.

Warriors become U.S. citizens

Twenty seven Soldiers take oath, celebrate Independence Day

By Army Staff Sgt. Robert R. Ramon 345th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Af-

ghanistan — Twenty seven U. S. Soldiers serving on the front lines of the war on terror in Afghanistan became the newest American citizens during a special July 4 overseas military naturalization ceremony here.

"There are Soldiers from 17 different countries who will be taking the Oath of Allegiance on America's 230th birthday," said Army Maj. Gen. Benjamin Freakley, Coalition Joint Task Force-76 commander. "Today, these fine Soldiers will be unified as Americans."

More than 150 of the July 4 ceremonies will be conducted by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's U.S.

Citizenship and Immigration Services for over 18,000 men, women and children in the United States and members of the military serving in overseas locations.

According to Freakley, the Bagram ceremony was significant because of the Soldiers' service to the United States of America.

"The Soldiers here who are about to become citizens already understand they have a unique responsibility and that is the defense of the nation," said Freakley. "The citizen who is a Soldier has to do more for the nation than other citizens because the citizens of America count on (them) to defend her and make sure that life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness are guaranteed for all Americans. Thousands of

See OATH, Page 7



Army Maj. Gen. Benjamin Freakley speaks to U.S. Soldiers before they became American citizens during a naturalization ceremony at Bagram Airfield on July 4. Freakley is the Combined Joint Task Force-76 commander.

OATH from Page 6

immigrant Soldiers are making extraordinary sacrifices for America in the war on terror."

Army Pvt. 1st Class Joyce Nanquil, originally from the Philippines, knows well the responsibilities of American Soldiers. As she took the Oath of Allegiance here in Afghanistan, her brother, Army Spec. Alfer Nanquil, simultaneously took the oath while serving in Iraq.

"It's really amazing that my brother and I are getting our citizenship on the same day," said Nanquil whose hometown is now Temecula, Calif. "I feel so proud that I can't even begin to explain it. It's a really good day today."

Due to recent changes in the laws governing U.S. citizenship, the application process is expedited for legal, permanent residents serving in the U.S. military during times of hostilities. Also, naturalization ceremonies can be held overseas for U.S. military service members. This made the day even more special for Army Spec. Ahmed John, a native of Kabul, Afghanistan.

John said he has dreamed of becoming an American citizen since he and his family moved to the U.S. when he was 10.

"I have had dreams of being a citizen since I was a 10-yearold boy living in Afghanistan," said John. "I feel great to be an

American citizen."

His current deployment here with the U.S. Army was his first return trip to Afghanistan since he immigrated to the United States. Returning to Afghanistan holds a double meaning for him.

"I came back to Afghanistan to protect my native land and also to defend my homeland—the United States of America," said John. "The United States has offered me so many opportunities I would not have

had anywhere else, so I would not hesitate to give my life for my new country. I love the United States."

Moments before raising their right hands and reciting the Oath of Allegiance, each of the Soldiers received praise from Freakley for their service in the war on terror.

"We are a nation of immigrants," said Freakley. "Very few of us are actually indigenous to the United States of America. Since July of 2002,

nearly 20,000 military personnel serving in the global war on terror have become United States citizens. As a nation that gives to others, we also like our citizens to be part of that ethic of giving to others. Clearly you are already demonstrating that by serving your nation in uniform. I wish you prosperity, health and happiness as Americans and I hope that you will contribute to the nation, as you are already, throughout your entire life."



Photo by Army Staff Sgt. Robert R. Ramon

Army Maj. Gen. Benjamin Freakley, left, congratulates Army Spc. Ahmed John during a special July 4 naturalization ceremony at Bagram Airfield. John, a native of Kabul, Afghanistan, was one of 27 U.S. Soldiers who took the Oath of Allegiance during the ceremony.

Kandahar City Fire Department gets new equipment

Combined Forces Command - Afghanistan Public Affairs

KANDAHAR CITY, Afghanistan – As part of an ongoing effort to better equip the Afghan National Police and its members, the Canadian Civilian Police Unit and Canadian Forces' firefighters at the Kandahar Provincial Reconstruction Team provided firefighting equipment to the city fire department on June 25.

"We are extremely happy as firefighters to share protective equipment and tools with our Afghan colleagues to fight fires in the city and to respond to emergencies quickly and safely," said Sergeant W. Murphy, KPRT chief firefighter.

A gas-powered water pump was purchased to refill the fire truck's tank with water from local canals and wells. The firefighting tools distributed were axes, pike poles, hooligan tools, sledgehammers, proper boots, gloves and hoods plus a number of hose connections.

The Kandahar City Fire Department falls under the ANP and the firefighters are actually ANP members. This project was handled by the Canadian Civilian Police Unit and funding was handled by the KPRT's Civilian Military Cooperation Team.

Shutol district dedicates new micro

By Air Force Capt. Joe Campbell Panjshir Provincial Reconstruction Team Public Affairs

PANJSHIR PROVINCE, Afghanistan -- Governor Haji Bahlol and provincial leaders dedicated a new micro-hydro power station and governance facility at separate ceremonies in the Shutol District here June 28.

The two projects, which have an important link, are provincial reconstruction team initiatives undertaken at the request of the governor. The governor is the lead agent for all reconstruction projects in the province and the PRT works closely with him to be responsive to his priorities.

"The micro-hydro power plant provides the electricity for the new Shutol District Center where there will be a law office and offices for the district manager, director of administration and police chief," said Governor Bahlol. The 9,000 sq. ft. facility is known by some as the flagship project for the district.

"The Shutol District Center is one of the projects a traveler will notice while con into the valley and it is quite a value at a of about \$16 per sq. ft.," said Air Force 1s Chris White, Panjshir PRT engineer.

The contractor hired local villagers to much of the construction which adds a so of pride and ownership of the facility.

"The opening of a district center is new us and it will provide good service to the ple who needed a meeting place," said Sayeed, a resident who served as a Mujahi general fighting against invading Soviet tr more than 20 years ago.

The Shutol micro-hydro power plant, localong the Panjshir River, not only power new district center's offices from a clean renewable energy source, but also supelectricity to the police station and entrance to the valley, known as Lion's G

"There were some 'firsts' for this area of micro-hydro project including the use of utility poles and porcelain insulators on





(Above) Panjshir Governor Haji Bahlo PRT commander cut the ribbon at the emony June 28. The plant powers the electricity to the police station at the Haji Bahlol talks about the benefits or District Center dedication ceremony

FEATURE July 10, 2006 Page 9

o-hydro plant

the first coming t a cost e 1st Lt.

"These projects are not only functional, beautiful and welcoming to the Panjshir Valle, but they are yet one more step toward the future

a sense

new for

he peoaid Mr. ahideen

troops

located vers the

supplies nd the

Gate.

on the of steel

on the

Air Force Lt. Col. Neal Kringel Panjshir PRT commander

and peace of Afghanistan."

cross arms," Lieutenant White said.

The \$90K project also included retaining walls to channel the water to the turbine housed in a small building, utility poles and insulated conductors to distribute electricity.

"I thank Governor Bahlol for his leadership, partnership and friendship with the PRT," said Air Force Lt. Col. Neal Kringel, Panjshir PRT commander. "These projects are not only functional, beautiful and welcoming to the Panjshir Valley, but they are yet one more step toward the future and peace for Afghanistan."

Panjshir Valley, but they are yet one more step toward the future and peace for Afghanistan."

Courtesy photos

hlol and Air Force Lt. Col. Neal Kringel, Panjshir the Shutol micro-hydro power plant dedication certhe new district center's offices and also supplies he entrance to the valley. (Left) Panjshir Governor of the new 9,000 sq. ft. facility during the Shutol by June 28.



The \$90K Shutol micro-hydro power plant project also includes retaining walls to channel the water to the turbine housed in a small building, utility poles and insulated conductors to distribute the electricity.

Riggers shatter airdrop record

By Army Sgt. 1st Class Michael Rautio Joint Logistics Command BAGRAM AIRFIELD,

Afghanistan – On a night like many others, a C-17 Globemaster III soared through the skies over southern Afghanistan, the back of the giant plane slid open and the cargo ramp locked into place.

When the plane passed its mark, a crew member pressed a button as the nose of the plane gently eased up. With that push of a button, the cargo inside the belly began to slide out into the darkness.

However, the morning of June 17 marked the first time that 40 containerized delivery system bundles were dropped from a C-17 in combat operations in one pass over a drop zone, said Army Sgt. 1st Class Tommie Selmon, a rigger with the 647th Quartermaster Company.

With those 40 bundles, the riggers who support the Combined Joint Operations Area in Afghanistan also went well over 1 million pounds of supplies delivered to troops in forward locations around the country fighting the war on terror.

It took the riggers slightly more than four months and roughly 650 bundles.

The riggers work day and night packing, preparing and loading various types of supplies for aerial delivery to the Soldiers on the front lines.

Aerial delivery is a critical capability as many of the locations where Soldiers operate can only be re-supplied by air due to the mountainous terrain.



Photos by Army Sgt. 1st Class Michael Rautio

Army Spc. Osorio Oscar pushes a containerized delivery system bundle into a C-17 at Bagram Airfield on June 17. This bundle was one of 40 loaded onto the plane for this particular mission. Osorio is a rigger assigned to the 623rd Quartermaster Company.

"Here you see what you are doing is going for a good cause," said Army Spc. Tara Brooks, a rigger assigned to the 600th Quartermaster Company. "What we are doing here is helping in a huge way." Brooks recently explained to her family the importance of her job here.



Army Spc. Jabari Nobles, right, attaches a static line to the anchor-line cable inside a C-17 at Bagram Airfield on June 17 with help from Army Staff Sgt. Raul Mercado. Nobles is assigned to the 623rd Quartermaster Company. Mercado is assigned to the 647th Quartermaster Company.

"I laid it all out for my mom and dad and they couldn't be any more proud. They don't like the fact that I could be in danger, but they support me," said Brooks.

Though Brooks is quick to point out that the riggers' success is due to the teamwork between them. "It's a group effort. Nobody could do this by themselves. It's like we're a big family," said Brooks.

The nearly two dozen riggers who support service members throughout Afghanistan are made up of Soldiers from four different units from Fort Bragg, N.C., and Fort Campbell, Ky. The units are the 600th, 623rd, 612th and 647th Quartermaster Companies, all based at Fort Bragg, N.C. The 647th also has Soldiers based at Fort Campbell, Ky.

With the current pace of ongoing operations, Selmon said he wouldn't be surprised if he and his crew broke the 2 million pound mark before the end of their tour in early 2007.

Americans send school supplies

By Army Sgt. Mayra Kennedy 345th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD,

Afghanistan --The commander of Combined Joint Task Force - 76 gathered with Afghan officials here June 19 supporting the ongoing humanitarian mission by donating 2,050 school supplies to Afghan children.

Army Maj. Gen. Benjamin C. Freakley, CJTF – 76 commander, presented the Afghan National Army and Afghan National Police with the donation, primarily from families from Fort Polk, La., and Fort Drum, N.Y.

"A lot of organizations in the U.S. are contributing school supplies for Afghan children," said Freakley, who explained how the donation will be divided among the two organizations. "This is the first time that we've donated supplies to the ANA and ANP. We are trying to make a better life for the people of Afghanistan."

He explained that the donation was given to the ANP and ANA because they know best who is in need of the supplies.

Afghan Gen. Esmatullah Darrlatzai, ANP commander of the Regional Command South, received half of the school supplies, which will be given to those in need.

"This is the best way to see and keep

the people supporting the government," said Esmatullah.

Earlier this month, the ANA distributed school supplies at least one school and an orphanage in the Kandahar Province where 1,200 Afghan boys and girls benefited from the donations.

During a visit at a school in Lashkar

Gah, Esmatullah said children received him and his soldiers with open arms and he wanted to repay their sentiments by providing school supplies.

"Both generals need to know this is an initial down payment," said Freakley. "If they need more, they need to tell their mentors so that we can help out."



Photo by Army Spc. Robert Honeycutt

Army Maj. Gen. Benjamin Freakley and an Afghan National Army officer check the contents of a school backpack donated by Americans. Freakley and ANA Brig. Gen. Khawaja Morad joined together to donate school supplies at Kandahar Airfield on June 20. Freakley is commander of Combined Joint Task Force - 76 and Morad is deputy commander of the ANA's 205th "Hero" Corps.



PHOTOS FROM THE FIELD

An Afghan National Police officer finds a handgun during a vehicle search exercise conducted by the Mehtar Lam Provincial Reconstruction Team Police Training and Assistance Team June 22.

Photo by Air Force Capt. Gerardo Gonzalez Mehtar Lam Provincial Reconstruction Team

If you have high-quality photos of service members supporting the Coalition mission or enjoying well-deserved off-duty time, please e-mail them to freedomwatch@baf.afgn.army.mil. Please include full identification and caption information, including who is in the photo and what action is taking place.

Page 12 Freedom Watch FEATURE July 10, 2006

Soldier keeps calm amid chaos, Afghans follow lead

By Army Sgt. 1st Class Cynthia A. Hernandez 345th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

KABUL, Afghanistan -- In the midst of chaos, confusion and frustration, a Soldier found a way to secure and calm an angry crowd in Kabul on June 13.

Army Sgt Terry L. Jenkins,

Office of the Staff Judge Advocate paralegal noncommissioned officer, Combined Forces Command-Afghanistan, was one of the first on the scene of a fatal accident that occurred just two weeks after a previous accident May 29 resulted in a large-scale riot.

At Camp Eggers, Jenkins, an Indiana National Guardsman with the 219th Area Support Group, helps provide legal support for military members, receives and investigates



Photo by Air Force Master Sgt. Chris Miller, CFC-A public affairs

Army Sgt. Terry L. Jenkins, Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, paralegal noncommissioned officer, speaks with Afghan citizens about the claims filed for damage to their property following a vehicle accident June 13.

claims, gives briefings to newcomers on the rules of engagement while here, and interacts with Afghan citizens who provide services to Coalition forces.

The accident June 13 occurred about a mile away from the accident site of May 29, when a Coalition tow

truck, towing another truck, attempted to avoid hitting a civilian motorcyclist that had suddenly slowed down in front of the truck. The Coalition vehicle hit the motorcycle and the Coalition vehicle flipped over into a 15-foot embankment. It caused damage to residential dwellings and businesses, and resulted in civilian injuries.

Following the accident, Jenkins, along with other SJA Soldiers, found a courtyard nearby and established an onscene claims office.

"What we tried to do in this situation was diffuse it quickly so it wouldn't escalate into the same problems that happened a couple of weeks before," said Jenkins, a native of Vincennes, Ind. "But it was a lot of people's efforts, not just mine."

See CALM, Page 14

Camaraderie brews at Canadian coffee shop

By Army Spc.
Robert Honeycutt
345th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghan-

istan --The popular boardwalk has a new alternative for hungry residents. The Canadian Forces Personnel Support Agency opened their newest Tim Horton's coffee shop franchise on July 1, which also happens to coincide with the Canada Day celebration.

After a ribbon-cutting ceremony, service members lined up to order their "double, double" and other Tim Horton's favorites. Other Coalition forces who haven't tried it also have the chance to experience Canada's favorite brew.

"It will have a huge impact on morale," said Canadian Army Chief Warrant Officer Michael McDonald, Command Sergeant Major for Task Force Aegis of

See COFFEE Page 14



Photo by Army Sgt. Brian Raley

Canadian troops line up at the service window of Tim Horton's directly following a ceremony commemorating the opening of the first Tim Horton's in Afghanistan. The Canadian Forces Personnel Support Agency opened their newest Tim Horton's coffee shop franchise July 1.

Khost locals celebrate Afghan Mother's Day

By Army Spc. Amber Robinson-Sonoda Task Force Spartan Public Affairs

FORWARD OPERATING BASE SALERNO, Afghanistan --Khost women of all ages gathered with Coalition Forces at Khost University June 14 to celebrate Afghan Mother's Day.

Afghans came from all over the province to pay homage to motherhood with guest speakers, special poetry, children's performances and singing.

"The mother brings the whole world," said Malalay Wafa, teacher at Bebe Halima Girl's school. "Whatever praises we say of the mother, it will never be enough."

The program began with a special blessing, a recitation of the Holy Q'uran, sung by Mullah Muhammad Gufa. Many local directors and deputy directors spoke to the crowd on the honor of motherhood. A group of Afghan schoolgirls sang a simple, but poignant, poem in honor of the special day.

"You raise the children, take them to school. You are my life

You are my desire,

My dear Mother.
You have given me life
Whatever is given me in life is thanks to
you."

-Unknown

The Afghan Director of Social and Community Affairs, Arhaj Ismael, spoke on how important the role of the Afghan male is in keeping the role of the mother sacred, and how they must learn to covet the role of the newly emerging Afghan female. Many male Khost University students were present to receive his speech.

"It is our job, as educated Afghan men, to inform the community on how we must learn to support equal rights for our country's females," said Ismael.

Coalition service members were also present for the celebration. Navy Cmdr. John Wade, Provincial Reconstruction Team commander, delivered a short discourse for the event.

"My father died when I was young," said Wade. "So it was my mother and my grandmother that raised my siblings and I. My mother worked hard to put food on the table and to make sure we were raised with good values and ideals. There were two that were the most important



Photos by Army Spc. Amber Robinson-Sonoda

Deputy Director of Women's Affairs, Haftab, speaks on the importance of the role of the Afghan mother at the Afghan Mother's Day Celebration held at Khost University on June 14.

to her, which still guide me to this day. One was optimism, and the other was that all people were created equal. All people should be treated with dignity and respect."

The message of dignity and respect was carried throughout the day as all mothers and young mothers-to-be looked to a bright future of greater respect and new opportunity.

"All the women present are grateful for what has been done for them today," said Navy Petty Officer Claudia Lozano, who works with the Khost PRT. "But more than anything they want the opportunity to stand beside the men of the country and fight for a new Afghanistan."

The responsibility of a sturdy and prosperous nation relies strongly on the mothers of Afghanistan, said participants throughout the day. Mothers have an enormous impact by teaching their children the value of education, hard work and treating others with dignity and respect, they said.

"These children here today will hear the words of these respected and educated speakers," said Lozano. "And they will continue to spread this knowledge to their children. A good chain has started here today."



Navy Cmdr. John Wade, Provincial Reconstruction Team commander, speaks to Afghan locals on the strength that is embodied in the role of the mother during the Afghan Mother's Day Celebration held at Khost University on June 14. Khost women of all ages gathered with Coalition Forces at Khost University to celebrate Afghan Mother's Day.

CALM from Page 12

At first, it looked like the accident could have resulted in another civil disturbance, said Jenkins. He said he knew what happened the last time and like the incident in May, the accident could have easily turned into a bad situation rather quickly.

"But the idea was to be proactive with this one and not let it get out of hand," he said. "My job was to interact with the local citizens who had suffered the damage. They calmed down and were understanding for our concerns about their losses."

Jenkins controlled and eased the tensions in the crowd, said Army Lt. Mike Ni, a National Guardsman with the 107th Corp Support Group, New York, N.Y., the Garrison Command Judge Advocate at Camp Eggers.

"One way to prevent people from congregating all around

"I felt they didn't see me as a guy in a green uniform, but as somebody who was there willing to help."

Army Sgt. Terry L. Jenkins Staff Judge Advocate

you is separating them and that's what we did," Ni said.

This allowed the legal specialists to speak with individuals filing claims and kept outsiders from causing distractions.

"When there are so many people around, it becomes a security issue, but when you have the situation controlled, it works out better," Ni said.

Following the accident, a report was filed with the SJA, which included all the events that occurred at the site and Jenkins' efforts.

"Sergeant Jenkins was pretty heroic because of the personal danger that he willingly placed himself in, surrounded by many angry people so close to where the deadly riots began just two weeks prior," said Army Col. Manuel E.F. Supervielle, the Staff Judge Advocate for Combined Force Command – Afghanistan.

His peers recognized Jenkins with a certificate of achievement for exceptional leadership during this event from Army Lt. Gen. Karl Eikenberry, CFC-A Commanding General, and Army Command Sgt. Maj. Daniel Wood, Command Sergeant Major CFC-A. Jenkins was also presented with a CSM coin for his leadership.

"This could have had nega-

tive effects, but he turned it around and caused it to be a neutral situation," Wood said. "Sergeant Jenkins demonstrated calmness and cool in a volatile situation and the effects are much broader than what he can see."

Jenkins said his military training, the ability to put himself in other people's shoes for a moment, and listening skills, helped him deal with and confront this type of situation.

"I felt they didn't see me as a guy in a green uniform, but as somebody who was there willing to help and at least understand their perspective," Jenkins said.

"Accidents do happen, so rather than let them think we were just going to let it be their problem, I let them know we did not work that way," said Jenkins. "It is our problem also and we will work on getting this resolved the best way possible."

COFFEE from Page 12

the 1st Canadian Mechanized Brigade from Edmonton, Alberta. "A piece of Canada for us here in Afghanistan."

"It reminds us of back home and it's what we're used to," said Canadian Army Corporal Jim Sinclair of the Royal Regina Rifles in Regina Beach, Saskatchewan.

With over 2,800 locations in North America, Tim Horton's popularity has made it a cultural phenomenon in its home country and now in Afghanistan Coalition forces on Kandahar Airfield can experience a piece of Canada too.

CFPSA is the Canadian equivalent to the Army, Air Force Exchange Service that operates the post-exchange and restaurants on U.S. military bases, including three fast-food restaurants in Kandahar. CFPSA operates six Tim Horton's on Canadian military bases.

This is the first one in Afghanistan and Canadians troops are happy they are here, expressed McDonald. "It lets us know



Photo by Army Sgt. Brian Raley

British Soldiers place their order at the new Tim Horton's coffee shop in Kandahar Airfield.

that people are thinking of us, he said. "They support us."

Whether you order a chocolate chaud or a hot chocolate, the menu is printed in both English and French, reflecting the multilingual culture of Canada's population. The menu also includes coffee, tea, donuts, muffins, cookies and bagels. Tim Horton's has quickly become an alternative to eating breakfast in the dining facility, as well as a frequent stop for Soldiers on their way into work in the morning.

"Usually when you go into work, you stop in and grab a coffee" Sinclair said. "Its good coffee and it's great to have here."





U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Benjamin Freakley (left) presents Canadian Brig. Gen. Daniel Pepin with an award during a Canada Day ceremony at Bagram Airfield on July 1. Freakley is the Coalition Joint Task Force-76 commander and Pepin is CJTF-76 deputy commanding general-effects.

Photos by Army Staff Sgt. Robert R. Ramon, 345th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

Canadian and U.S. service members serving together as part of Coalition Joint Task Force-76 salute the Canadian flag during a Canada Day ceremony at Bagram Airfield on July 1.

CJTF-76 celebrates Canada Day

Combined Forces - Afghanistan Public Affairs

BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan -- Canadian and U.S. service members serving under Coalition Joint Task Force-76 celebrated Canada Day during a ceremony here July 1.

The ceremony began with the raising of the Canadian flag in front of CJTF-76 headquarters, while the U.S. Army 10th Mountain Division Band played "O Canada," the Canadian national anthem.

Distinguished guests included U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Benjamin Freakley, CJTF-76 commander; Canada Army Brig. Gen. Daniel Pepin, CJTF-76 deputy commanding general-effects; and U.S. Army Command Sgt. Maj. Ralph Borja, CJTF-76 command sergeant major.

During the ceremony, Pepin presented Canadian service members with awards for their service here. He then reminded them of their proud heritage.

" We're a peaceful nation. However, when out military is called upon we are always ready to fight and win."

> Canadian Army Brig. Gen. Daniel Pepin Combined Joint Task Force -76 deputy commanding general-effects

"We are a peaceful nation," said Pepin. "However, when our military is called upon we are always ready to fight and win." Freakley thanked the Canadians for their service here.

"I'm sure you'd rather be celebrating on Parliament Hill with your fellow countrymen today," said Freakley. "We're proud to have you here serving beside us in the war on terror."

